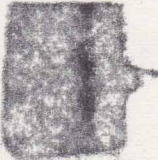


**BULLETIN
OF THE
ANARCHIST
BLACK CROSS**

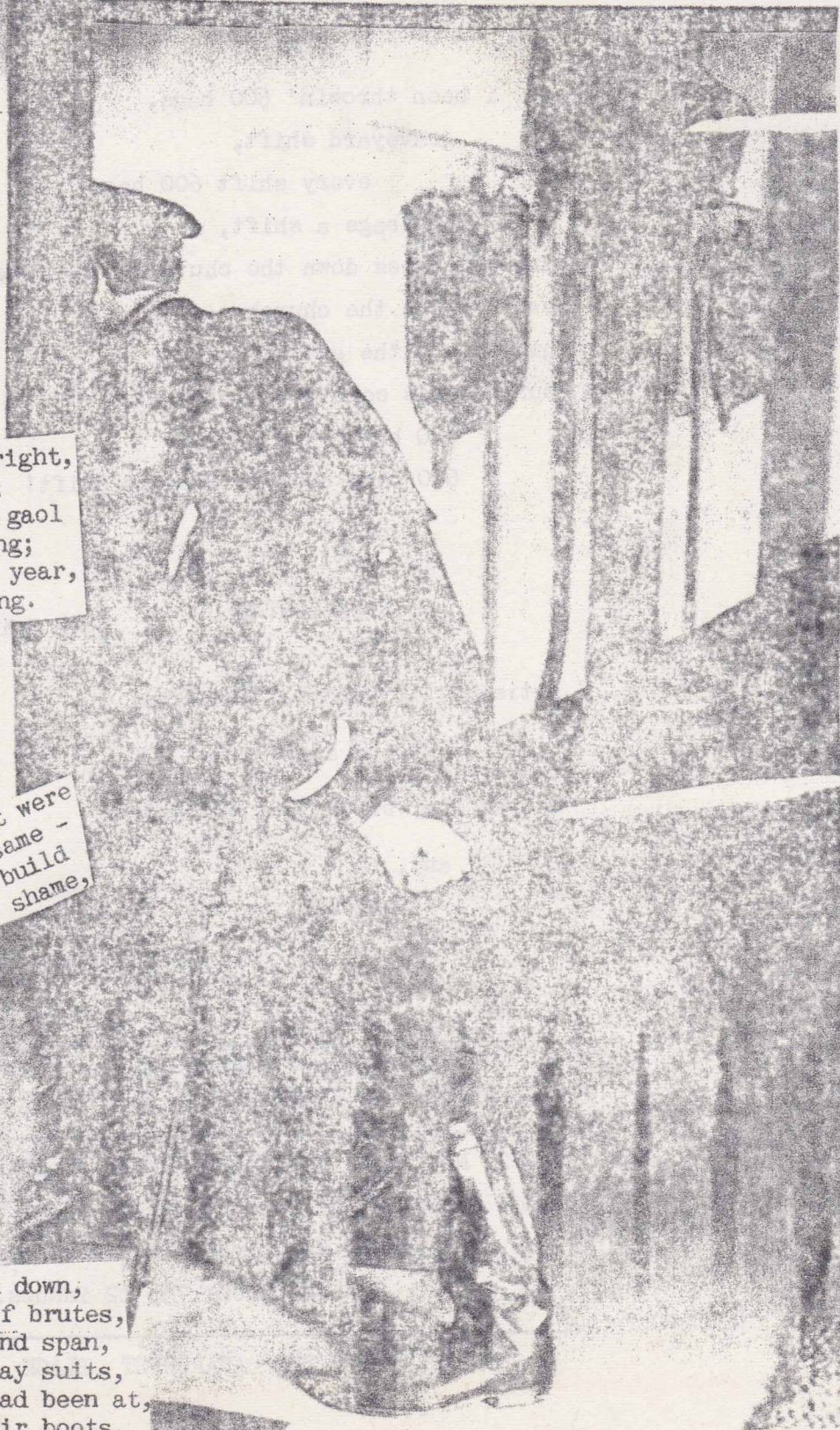
BLACK FLAG



I know not whether Laws be right,
Or whether Laws be wrong;
All that we know who lie in gaol
Is that the wall is strong;
And that each day is like a year,
A year whose days are long.

This too I know - and wise it were
If each should know the same -
That every prison that men build
Is built with bricks of shame.

The Warders strutted up and down,
And watched their herd of brutes,
Their uniforms were spick and span,
And they wore their Sunday suits,
But we knew the work they had been at,
By the quick-lime on their boots.



SIX HUNDRED BAGS

Quin Saine

Yeah, i been throwin' 600 bags,
graveyard shift,
every shift 600 bags,
600 bags a shift,

First one goes down the chute is the foreman 'n the company -

Second one's the church -

Third one's the gov't -

Fourth one's some politician Krud -

600 bags -

600 bags every graveyard shift!

* * * *

ENLIGHTEN

Quin Saine

Artisans, Students, Workers,

unto us all!

Hasten the voices that enlighten,

and,

unleash... the, the.....

THE WRATH OF THE MASSES!

COVER: Illustration - Moscow Jail. Text - Reading Jail.
TO ALL PRISONERS OF ALL STATES EVERYWHERE - FREEDOM!

Vol. 2. No. 12. Published almost every month, 6p.

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BULLETIN OF THE ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS

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JUNE 1972. AS THIS BULLETIN APPEARS ITS EDITOR, STUART CHRISTIE, FACES TRIAL AFTER BEING DETAINED SINCE AUGUST 1971. HE IS APPEARING AT THE OLD BAILEY WITH OTHER COMRADES OF THE "STOKE NEWINGTON EIGHT".

IS ANARCHISM UNLAWFUL?

A Chinese Anarchist once pointed out it was impossible to pass a law outlawing Anarchism. A Government could ban associations but it could not pass a law forcing people to love it. It could persecute those who hated it, but never, by law, could the State make itself loved. That is why, he said, they need religions and ideas like nationalism, patriotism and humility: he could have added that they also need the mass media and other forms of silent oppression which, even so, need to wrap up the State in another package ("the country", "law and order", "the motherland") to make it acceptable.

The State is oppression. It makes the law. Anarchism is freedom from oppression, which is why it does not need laws. Is it therefore automatically unlawful? This is what the Press will assume in the reporting of the "conspiracy trial", just as it has done on previous occasions. It will try to excite prejudice on the very word 'anarchist' hoping the jury will not know what is meant. But the prosecution has to be more careful. If the jury has access to an 'Encyclopaedia Britannica' it may find out what the word does mean. Then the case will swing the other way. For juries are not lawyers, and may wonder why people are to be persecuted because they believe in freedom.

"But if you believe in revolution this is automatically unlawful". If this were so, the State would define it. It has not done so. In fact, by an irony of history, the most libertarian revolution of all, in Spain, took place after an unlawful rising by the military to forestall it. It was therefore, by the law as it stood, "legal" or at any rate "made legal".

"But you believe in violence!" We believe in the Roman Church... at least, we believe it is there (and can show one if necessary). It would be futile to deny the existence of something that exists. If it were not for violence, would the accused allow themselves to be

dragged from their homes, thrown into jail, and brought before the court?

Violence is a factor in the world that cannot be overlooked. The accused certainly believe that in a conflict between the classes, violence will be used, and that they will be on the side of the workers against the State. The argument of "non-violence" is a politician's argument, and not a lawyer's at all. "Non-violence" means submission or incorporation in a totalitarian movement in which all obey. In war-time, the politician recognises this and denounces it; in peace-time, he elevates it to a virtue.

No law that exists says that a man or woman must withhold his or her sympathies from a movement because it is illegal. Nor is it imperative that to be acquitted of something they have not done, prisoners must recant their beliefs. That is something that smacks of the Spanish Inquisition. Proof of political affiliation cannot be evidence of committing an act likely to disturb the opponents of that tendency. Many politicians would like this to be the case as far as their opponents are concerned, but they cannot frame the law so as to exclude themselves. To have it so, as in the totalitarian countries, they have to ignore their own laws. But this is not something which can be done, as yet, in London.

Those pigs who have seized 'Black Flag' or 'Floodgates of Anarchy' from people they have raided merely acted as thieves. They may have believed the copies were presumption of guilt of something or other but superior officers explained this was not so. One London bookshop had six copies of 'Floodgates' at a bargain price. It was not a remainder. Inquiries revealed they were sold by a police officer who had stolen them on one of the raids. The bookseller declined further information lest he be implicated. If a pig tries to steal this copy, show him this paragraph.

CALIFORNIAN PRISONERS

In Alameda County Jail in California are Ed Stover and Mike Lamm, Anarchists facing heavy sentences on an arms charge. Ed Stover has been a year awaiting trial, and is preparing a book on his case Anarchist in Exile. The possibility is 10 years to life. Ed is being transferred to San Quentin Prison under maximum security.

GERMANY Brothers and sisters in jail include Isle Bogartz, Willy Piroch, Gerhard Zawiszewski, Brigitte Asdonk, Monika Berberich, K.H.Kuhn, Hilmar Luttmann, Carmen Roll, M. Kuhn, Rudolf Pauht, all libertarians.

THE ITALIAN NEO-FASCIST PLOTS.

What happened in the Milan Bomb Case has now even trickled out to the capitalist press. It can no longer admit ignorance. The Telegraph Colour Supplement carries a comprehensive account. The London Evening Standard concedes it was probably done by the Secret Service using the Neo-Fascists as tools.

THE BROLLY BRIGADE

Railwaymen were in pursuit of their industrial claims "working to rule" until a court order prevented them from obeying the rules they can be fined and imprisoned from ignoring. The go slow on the railway lines, because of the antiquated rulebook, caused fury and frustration to many commuters. The most well-heeled were the most violent in their fury.

On the Southern Line, the commuter belt raved and fumed at the delays. It erupted into violence, applauded by all the Press as THE BROLLY BRIGADE. The 9 to 5 gentry hit railwaymen with their umbrellas, spat at them, struck at them, smashed their property, used a great deal of minor violence.

The Press egged on THE BROLLY BRIGADE to greater acts of violence. Only by the railwaymen resisting them did they desist.

How unlike the scene when the ANGRY BRIGADE struck at certain Ministers!! There were no Press declamations against violence. Nobody offered £10,000 to identify the leader of the Brollry Brigade. Six hundred policemen in plain clothes were not switched to find out the leader of the Brollry Brigade. The supporters of the Brollry Brigade were not labelled PUBLIC ENEMY No. 1. nor were leading solicitors' clerks named as the ringleaders and conspirators.

Their fellow Tories did not disown them. They admired them. They were proud to be in the same movement. They felt this violence of the Brollry Brigade enhanced their image. It was showing the workers that the Good Bourgeois could hit back. Had the Brollry Brigade blown up a few railway canteens or railwaymen's cottages, one feels it would all have been a jolly good show... smiled on by the police... lauded by the press and made the most of by the latter, not hidden or suppressed whenever possible.

THE MORAL: They are class conscious. They have not got round to the humbug that the class struggle does not exist under which slogan liberalism corrodes the revolutionary movement.

REMEMBER THE ELECTRICAL CRISIS? MR. JOHN DAVIES CALLED FOR VIOLENCE AGAINST POWER WORKERS. HE SMILED AT THE IDEA OF VIOLENCE AGAINST THE POST OFFICE STRIKERS. BUT WHEN THE ANGRY BRIGADE CALLED ON HIM, "ALL THE KING'S HORSES AND ALL THE KING'S MEN" WEREN'T ENOUGH TO STRIKE BACK AT SOMEONE...ANYONE...

THE POLITICS OF CHARITY

It is a shame to smile at Oxfam. It is so worthy a cause. Yet its basic premise is naive to the person who understands what makes society tick. Our latest leaflet tells HOW TO MAKE THE GOVERNMENT GIVE MORE HELP TO THE HUNGRY. If we give Oxfam a covenant to pay a fixed sum for seven years and are paying income tax at the standard rate, "we can claim 63p from the Government for every £1 you give."

If this is the way the Government gives help, one can also say that the highway robber who holds one up and steals one's purse, but leaves one enough money to get home (some do) is making a contribution to us: is charitable.

"At Vuvulane in Swaziland, Oxfam has set up a revolving fund. This means that poor settlers can borrow £70 each to get themselves started as farmers. They pay back into the fund from their earnings so the Oxfam money is used over and over again." Before the money system was introduced they had no problems at all. Now they face the fact that the "means of exchange" is printed elsewhere and only this foreign paper is valid. So they are starving. Give them foreign paper and all is well. But since, once "started" as farmers they can earn over and over again, it is clear there was no natural famine, as suggested in Oxfam posters. All that was lacking was paper printed on by a foreign press: i.e. the symbol of the means by which they were oppressed. Government does not help them. But given pressure by the socially conscious like Oxfam, it obligingly ceases to hinder.

THE "OLD GUARD"

We were delighted to learn that Marcus Graham, veteran Anarchist who for years battled against the U.S. Government's threat of deportation to publish the Anarchist journal "MAN!", is still going, in good health, at 78, and still carrying on Anarchist propaganda. In our contemporary "Match" (Tucson, Ariz.) he is writing as vigorously as ever.

Reams of sociological trash are poured out by the academics about the "generation gap". There is obviously a lot in common between Anarchists like Marcus and the current militants like the Weathermen, than between either and the peace-and-Jesus freaks.

During the last year with the trial looming over militants here, we have found a lot of sympathy and support from comrades I remember well in the 30s and 40s, no less than from the young militants. The non-violent fascists writing bitterly against the accused in the pages of "Freedom" belong to the now ageing CND generation or the PPU throw-outs of the late forties. Among those supporting the defence committee now is one who gave particularly loyal support to the editors of then-anarchist Freedom Press in the 1945 trial, and to me when I was in jail.

There is a gap in life styles. The young militants of today have a life style in common with young bourgeoisie just as much as old workers have with bourgeois culture. But it cuts across classes and across revolution. The revolutionary struggle is deliberately distorted when it is sought to show that it is the same thing as the generation gap.

A.M.

BLACK FLAG... "full of incisive wit and plain commonsense... its international coverage is particularly good" (Gutter Press)... "slightly paranoid" (Freedom). What's in a name?

Judging from the statements made by the anti-Common Market lobby - as a result of which Mr. Enoch Powell has taken his rightful place as spokesman for fraudulent social-democracy - one would imagine that Great Britain was being threatened by the inferior standards of the European nations.

The Common Market will solve nothing. But in many matters this country is a backwater slum and this hoocha over joining and not joining obscures the fact.

HOUSING The difficulties of getting housing in Britain and the near-impossibility in London cannot be solved by a capitalist approach. Here the Market is irrelevant, for it will still cost more to live in London and less to live in Brussels (or in Liverpool). But the scandal of London rents is the worst in Europe. In Paris flats are so cheap as to be uneconomic and therefore do not go round the market. In Brussels there is much available to the modest income.

UNEMPLOYMENT Britain has not reached the level of Southern Italy or Spain but it is far worse off than most Market countries.

CLERICAL DOMINATION There is an argument which says the Roman Church will use the Common Market to dominate. Christian Democrats rule Italy, and Western Germany and France from time to time. But these parties are unable to impose clerical domination for there exists too strong an anti-clerical movement. The political powers of the Roman Church are strongest in the non-Market (or just entering)

countries, i.e. Spain - No. 1; Ireland - No 2; the United Kingdom (though here it is more subtle) - No. 3.

TRADE UNIONS The reformist trade unions dominate in all Western European countries. The C.P. controls the French unions but in the same way that it does many Welsh miners' lodges, by capitulating to the system.

CIVIL LIBERTIES The worst situation in Europe is in Northern Ireland. However, in this field, where Britain always led on the main island, liberties have been steadily eroded. The Political Police now openly acts against dissenters and is in union with countries like Fascist Spain. There is more concern for law in England than elsewhere, but very little for liberty.

BLOOD TAX, known as conscription. Here, undoubtedly, Britain leads. The blood tax has not survived the years of peace. Politicians everywhere demand it as their tribute to power from the people. It has no military value any more, which is why the British Army has rejected it. But Continental politicians, deprived of titles and orders, want it as a sop to their vanity.

PENSIONS Even in Spain it is not possible to work for a firm all one's working life and then be sacked without a pension. In most countries, a pension goes with the job. In England, after 25 years, one can be given notice without a penny.

HOLIDAYS The Reformation abolished the Saints' Days. The bourgeois revolutions gave us no Independence days. Nobody is interested in the monarchy enough to celebrate the Queen's Birthday or Commonwealth Day. We are left with

the sparse and meagre Bank Holidays. A month in the summer is the norm in many European countries, apart from other days.

The worthy social-democrats and unworthy Powellites may fulminate against the Market as much as they like. But do not let us hear these patriotic assumptions that this England is some sort of demi-paradise that other politicians are bartering away.

UNION-BASHING

The unions woke up with a start to the fact that the Tories meant business when it came to union-bashing. It was, points out the Press, written there in the Act for all to see. But what trade union boss could believe that it could come to pass that the TGWU would be mulcted £55,000 by the Industrial Relations kangaroo court, or that the railwaymen would be called to heel.

Businessmen shuddered when they realised the Tories were taking on the unions. It was a popular move with the stock-broking fraternity, the bowler-hat belt and the saloon bar Rightists. But industrialists, in it for making cash and understanding how time and again the trade union leadership has sold out, felt that the Government had gone too far. This present bunch, after all, are not the real Big Business men themselves - they cannot "afford" the time to rule. This bunch are the academics and the hired men who have never done a day's work in their lives nor ever turned a penny by way of profit.

In their presumption they took on the mighty Labour Movement which so long has been courted by the capitalist world. Took it on and whipped it. The amateurs in their presumption are often right. This is exactly what Hitler's armed bohemians did. The capitalists did not, as Communist propaganda to back its own deficiency put it, finance Hitler. One or two gave some sums. They expected it to harass the Social-Democrats and neutralise the unions and whip the Communists in the streets. But the amateurs, in one blow, knocked down the whole pack of cards.

Overnight, the German labour movement collapsed. At the first threat, not even a whiff, of grapeshot, the trade unions wound up, the politicians ran away, and the proud Red Front that marched through the streets saying it was the forerunner of the workers' army was reduced to a few individuals being knocked around in improvised prison warehouses.

Here too at the first threat, the trade unions have capitulated to the amateurs. The capitalists look on amazed to think that this is what they took so much trouble to conciliate. The TGWU meekly pays up. A judge who could not collect his own washing without working class assistance has made it capitulate. Who need bother about the union movement any more? It even sends its representatives along to meetings with Mr. Heath to discuss productivity. For there is no point in "unnecessary discourtesy," they say. There is indeed. If you have no power, at least scream insults.

All they can scream, apparently, is Bring Labour Back. Do they imagine that now the Labour politicians, and the capitalists, see they are impotent, they will heed them more?

QUIZ

9.

1. Which special constable enrolled "in defence of the Constitution" against the Chartists in the great Kennington demo later became dictator of his country?
2. What geographical affinity has London's Unity Theatre with the history of anarchism?
3. What have (a) Frankenstein (b) the Bride of Frankenstein to do with Women's Liberation?
4. Which internationally known South African MP represents a "Hollywood dream"-type constituency with an all-wealthy all-white electorate including many millionaires?
5. Name the Hungarian rabbinical student who became a Protestant clergyman/German political police agent/English M.P. suspected of being German spy in W.War I/Buddhist monk/pioneer of British Fascism.

(ANSWERS ON PAGE 14).

LETTERS

In a previous Quiz you spoke of Hitler's 'humiliation' in the Munich Commune. What had Hitler to do with it? Surely you mean the Munich rising of a few years later when he unsuccessfully tried a putsch. Congratulations on the quiz, anyway. A.B..

(The putsch may also have 'humiliated' Hitler but he looked on it as a glorious failure. In the Commune, however, the Bavarian workers and soldiers made NCO's take off their stripes, and all Army

men had to take off badges of rank. Hitler was then in Munich. Nobody knows what he did. In 'Mein Kampf' he speaks vaguely of 'excesses' but does not speak of what he did. He must either (a) have taken off his stripes and given the clenched fist salute to the Munich Soviet or (b) have changed quietly into civilian clothes and lied low while the more courageous Rightists fought. There is no alternative as otherwise he would have been shot then and there. EDS).

I've been trying for years to get a local bulletin going only to be frustrated at the apathy of local 'anarchists'. Meetings, leaflets etc aren't trendy enough; instead we're asked to work through the local drop-out Arts Workshop, who came out against the Festival of Light, no less, and have now received a grant to help them to carry on their non-involved plans.

I agree with you there are many labelling themselves anarchists who have no idea what it's all about. They talk of "publicly-owned businesses"! They think that food co-ops etc are the modern propaganda by deed!

R.E.

I didn't actually see the letter this local anarchist wrote to the local journal, but I got the gist of it from the horse's mouth. It was shortly after Jake and Ian were arrested. He said he had never heard of them! He suspected a Right-Wing plot to discredit the anarchist movement. He wouldn't be surprised if they got off and were then well paid for the damage they did to the anarchist image. C.

(Slander, intrigue &c. are all non-violent, and distinguishable in the Pacifist Fraktion.. EDS).

The Maudling Prize for

IDIOT OF THE MONTH

A good entry, as usual, from Prince Charles. Commenting on a book about George III he feels the poor king was much maligned. He was not really mad at all, just misunderstood. It was a pity about the American business, but it could have been settled by a Royal visit.

Unfortunately this type of trouble-shooting by Visit did not come into vogue until Victoria. Even so, she insisted to Mr. Disraeli that the Government should pay the expenses of trips to Ireland. "Nobody, Mr. Disraeli, would travel there for pleasure."

Put your money where your mouth is, Charlie. How about a nice little visit round the Bogside? Or are the days of "I cheered, God forgive me, I cheered like the rest" irrevocably over? "Now that he's visited Erin's green shore, We'll be much better friends than we've been heretofore..."

No, sir, George III has not transmitted his looniness this far.

But we cannot award the prize to HRH. There is a stunning anonymous entry from the leader-writer of the Law Society Gazette. He feels that urgent legislation is necessary to deal with pop festivals. No matter what one's musical tastes, everyone will see that this can be considered one of the major issues of the day, unless one is prejudiced by being homeless, unemployed, sick, or being beaten up in a mental hospital the way even George III was. If the Law Society spokesman made a point that he did not like pop, and everyone knows that what one

dislikes should be banned, he would not qualify for this award. But he says that pop festivals are more damaging to those who take part in them ("this hurts me more than it hurts you, son") than it does those who find their native heath invaded by "what must seem a culture as alien as anything likely to come from outer space."

(In fact, we can reveal that nobody in the Law Society has any more idea that we have what is likely to come from outer space. Most scientific observers, let alone scientific fiction observers, feel it would be more alien.)

But why? The crowds, the noise, the excitement, all tend to "carnal promiscuity" (can't you see the saliva dropping as he mouths that phrase?) which leads to an "alarming increase of venereal infection". This means only one thing: POP MUSIC CAN GIVE YOU V.D.

There is, of course, a degree of truth in the fact that crowds, exaltation, transformed consciousness in mass, can turn you on sexy. But not just at pop festivals. It is well known that evangelical rallies of the Billy Graham type, and of the revivalist type, have the same effect. At the end of a Jehovah's Witness rally, they're all screaming with joy at salvation, and the wife-swapping parties make the chaste rationalists pale with envy.

But nobody ever mentions this. At least, not in the Law Society, where they get their kicks over the leather-bound porn in Chambers after a discreet glass of sherry. And with a silk handkerchief too.

PRIZE TO THE LAW SOCIETY IDIOT OF THE MONTH c/o the Gazette.

A scratched disc of "All those Lonely People".

ANOTHER COMRADE MURDERED IN GERMANY.

It is not yet another "1933".
But it bears an uncanny resemblance to the years of the Weimar Republic. This was how Hitler began....

The German political police have shot another member of the Anarchist Black Cross. THOMAS WEISBECKER was murdered in almost a carbon-copy killing of the way in which von Rauch was murdered.

Late in March, he was going along to his car. Suddenly three cars stopped. Six men jumped out, pistols in their hands. One, in a furred leather jacket, shot. It is not denied that these were members of the Political Police. Only they claim Weisbecker shot first.

This is contradicted by eye-witnesses. One, Kaden, says they shot from three yards away. In any case, why should a man walking peaceably to his car, be ready to shoot? The three cars that stopped suddenly had given no indication they were police cars.

He and a girl had been watched, secretly, for two days. They had just come out of a hotel. She had forgotten something, and went back. It saved her life. As Thomas went forward to the car, the police opened fire and he fell dead. They say that they only shot from a distance of 30 yards but it is well known that when making an arrest by surprise, they come up close.

Eye-witnesses of the action were chased away by the police. The policeman who committed the murder had just been to a special shooting course. Now that these courses are being held everywhere, an increasing number of militants will be shot down by the killer pigs. At the same time, the Interior Minister

of North Rhine/Westphalia, Weyer, says he would introduce a new law to make the police "independent" of prosecution in preliminary investigations. So the formal border to the Police State is passed.

The Political Police, in once again selecting a member of the Anarchist Black Cross, demonstrated their fear of aid to political prisoners. They hate solidarity for it means taking the revolutionary initiative from nationalist-inclined and Marxist groups that play at revolution to Anarchist groups that practise it.

AND THEY DEMONSTRATE THEIR OWN SOLIDARITY WITH POLITICAL BRANCH/INTERPOL... that has murdered Pinelli and von Rauch, jailed his brother, planned the arrests in Spain, and framed Christie and others... in his lunge against the Black Cross. Elsewhere, in its other drives, it has murdered the Turkish guerrillas, mysteriously killed Foltrinelli, holds Valpreda, and united the Great Powers against the Singhalese peasants.

In Berlin, hundreds of students have occupied a block which they have named VON RAUCH HAUS, in solidarity with our comrade. Remember - and revenge, WEISBECKER.

INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF CONFLICT
R.U.S.I. Building, Whitehall,
London, S.W.1A 2ET.
tel: 01-930 8527/8528

Director: Brian Crozier.
Deputy Director: Michael Goodwin.

3.5.72. Black Flag.

Dear Sir,

We are interested in subscribing to your publication and would be very grateful if you could send us a sample issue, along with details of the subscription rates...

Thanking you in anticipation,
Yours faithfully,
Diana L. Herbert, Librarian.

Dear Madam, 8.5.72.

We acknowledge your letter expressing interest in subscribing to our publication BLACK FLAG.

The normal rate is 75p for 12 issues but this is a special reduced rate to attract a particular readership and involves a deficit of £125. We have no wish to debar your Institute from subscribing, but the rate in this instance would be £125 for 12 issues.

I am, Madam,

Yours very truly,
Acting Secretary ABC.

NOTE: The Institute's directors are Prof. Leonard Schapiro (Chairman), Prof. Max Beloff, Maj.Gen. Clutterbuck, Prof. S.E. Finer, Prof. L.W. Martin, Prof. Hugh Seton-Watson, Sir Robert Thompson, Brig. W.F.K. Thompson etc.

It is a Rightist organisation to spy out what constitutes guerrilla tactics and revolutionary movements, and is designed to provide information for the military by the professors. Though on the general standing of knowledge among the professors, we can't say the military have much of a bargain.

MAY 14th: FURY OVER SPAIN (Film)
with Miguel Garcia Garcia speaking
on SPAIN TODAY at Centro Iberico.

From now on the Iberian Centre will run joint meetings with ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS. Any profits above clearing expenses will go to the SPANISH POLITICAL PRISONERS. We want to make it an international libertarian centre, which subsequently will have its own premises; also a place where, separately, Spanish immigrant workers can meet.

MEETINGS EVERY SUNDAY from about 5 p.m.
Films will be shown about 8 p.m.
on one floor; general gas on other.
Refreshments. Drop in and out.

Meetings are now held Sunday afternoon & evenings

CENTRO IBERICO (& ABC)
at Holy Trinity Church Hall,
just beside church, on left, KINGSWAY,
LONDON, W.C.2 (immediately opposite
Holborn Tube Station).

SPANISH & ENGLISH LITERATURE SOLD

BOOKS 84 Woodhouse Lane, Leeds 2:

Now available from them:-

MASS PSYCHOLOGY OF FASCISM (paper
£1.50 hardback £3.50) Wilhelm
Reich; and other Reichian pamphlets.
Send for list.

"BLACK FLAG" available from:-

Freedom Bookshop, 84b Whitechapel
High St. LONDON, E.1.; Compendium
Bookshop, 240 Camden High Street,
LONDON, N.W.1.; HOUSMAN'S, 5 Galedon
ian Rd. LONDON, N.1; Agitprop,
Bethnal Green Rd. LONDON, E.1.

BLACK FLAG BOOKSHOP, 1 Wilne St.
Leicester; Anarchist Bookshop,
153a Woodhouse Lane, Leeds 2;
Ian Neary, Student's Union,
Sheffield University.

THE BRIXTON RIOTS

How many people know what goes on in London's jails? At a recent Left-Wing meeting, a sister of Angela Davis, knowing nothing of London, said she understood there was "a prison in London called Brixton especially for black men". The middle-class libs roared denunciation. What could they be expected to know of it? What anyone else?

The judiciary gives the fanny that remand prisons like Brixton should not be used for punishment. They should only be used to detain people until their trial comes up (which may be a year or so but you can't expect the law to hurry). In fact, as the prison now admits, remand prisoners are treated in worse conditions than convicted ones. They have a bare amount of exercise. If the prison governor and Home Secretary could be convicted of keeping their pets in the same conditions and with as little exercise, a storm of protest would drive them out of public office for ever more.

THE PROTESTS AT BRIXTON

Now that Brixton is over-represented with political prisoners - not only with blacks, as Miss Davis thought - there are people there used to organising industrial agitation. That is why there were protests. Some 500 prisoners in A and F wings have made lengthy protests, some lasting up to eight hours. The authorities have admitted the force of their demands, though only recently the Home Secretary, in correspondence, denied

'inhuman conditions'. They are herded like cattle, fed worse than pigs, denied contact with their visitors (separated on visiting days from their loved ones by a glass screen - which makes it impossible for a slightly deaf person to hear anything). Their letters vanish into Home Office files, are censored, or fail to arrive. Their newspapers are censored. They have few facilities to prepare their defence. The machine is geared to make them LOOK and FEEL guilty.

A little protest, and the London papers gave it headlines. The Home Office admitted what could not possibly be denied. Only they denied that two prisoners had been beaten up by the wardens and 'disappeared'. This story, they said, 'should not be given circulation'.

PITY THE HOME OFFICE THAT HAS TO COVER UP CONDITIONS AND YET ADMIT 'AGITATORS' INTO THE PRISON AS A RESULT OF PARTY POLICY. BUT THE REAL PITY SHOULD BE FOR THOSE WHO HAVE OVER THE YEARS HAD TO ENDURE THE MIRE AND MIRE OF BRIXTON JAIL.

ABOLISH THE PRISONS.... AND END CRIME

PLYMOUTH RAIDS

ON THE 11th MARCH fifteen pigs (Special Branch and CID) raided the Community Workshop. They had a drugs warrant but were especially interested in correspondence and papers.. they stole literature and files, and were specially interested in Black Flag. They ripped up floorboards, saying "Where's the Claimants Union stuff?" By "accident" they smashed the offset press. They went on to raid other houses, ultimately finding some dope (Home Office issue?)

ANSWERS TO QUIZ.

1. Louis-Napoleon Bonaparte, later the Emperor Napoleon III.
2. It is opposite the grave of William Godwin "father of anarchism" in Old St Pancras Church (still preserved). Or alternatively: Around the corner from Ossulston Street, long the centre of anarchist publishing.
3. Frankenstein was written by women's rights pioneer Mary Woolstonecroft Shelley; the 'Bride' was created for the screen by Elsa Lanchester, daughter of famed Suffragette pioneer Miss Lanchester.
4. Mrs Helen Suzman MP, idol of world liberals.
5. Trebitsch Lincoln.

NEWS OF SPANISH PRISONERS

The following libertarians have been released after serving four years and some months:

Jaime Pozas de Villena,
David Urbano Bermudez,
Francisco Gil de Jaen,
Xabier de Sebastian Palomares.

All are students who were arrested during the uprising at the University.

Pedro Sanchez Perez, a worker accused of participation in the re-building of the C.N.T., has also been released, after serving twenty years. The period of 20 years is now the maximum that political prisoners are serving; among those released under this 'favour' were Miguel Garcia Garcia (now International Secretary of the Anarchist Black Cross) and Juan Busquets, jailed since 17 years of age.

USED STAMPS

What possible interest can tough guerrilla fighters and illegal union men in Spain have in stamp collecting? Well, many have children or grandchildren, and foreign stamps make a cheap present from a prisoner (they also show his children he is not forgotten by the world outside).

Supporters of Black X are asked to collect them (English stamps, especially special issues and the higher values, as well as foreign). Saves throwing them away. Send them in batches.

CLOTHING

We are being asked for clothing but we will send a London address (or arrange to collect in London). Anything way-out can be sold here to defray expenses of sending the rest.

FOOD &c

Write to us for the address of a political prisoner in Spain. To save administrative costs it is better to send direct.

JULIAN MILLAN HERNANDEZ

(May 1) We learn that his sentence has been quashed. Whether this is for better or worse cannot be stated. The military court resented the world wide publicity. The foreign legal observers agreed there was no evidence. So the sentence of 23 years was annulled. But this simply means it goes back to the court to try the case all over again and meantime Millan is still in jail. He is entering his fifth year of imprisonment. The court is well aware that it would be impossible to raise enough money, in the (unstated) time available, to send further foreign legal observers to the trial. The case needs increasing publicity. Only the irritation to the regime of seeing that it causes comment abroad has saved Millan from death.

Trotskyism as it really is

An article SPANISH WORKERS REJECT FRANCO UNIONS appears in "Militant" (21.4.72). It is almost all total lies, whitewashing and glorifying the role of the U.G.T. (the Spanish equivalent of the T.U.C. without the mass support. It was a minority, split union). No mention is made of the anarcho-syndicalist C.N.T. to which most of the workers and all revolutionaries belonged, and which alone is carrying on the revolutionary struggle.

The article (which faithfully echoes Trotskyist thinking) criticises the Stalinist Comisiones Obreras as reformist, but noticeably omits to say the UGT was in many ways downright reactionary. E.G. it says the UGT has a "clear and well founded position..of not utilising the official channels of the regime". Only of this regime, and only because they are not given the chance. They utilised the official channels of every other regime, Monarchist or Republican, including going into the Primo de Rivera Right Wing dictatorship, in order to try to make their union the one recognised and to keep the C.N.T. illegal.

Trotskyists have usually one criticism (well-founded) to make of the CNT, viz. that in 1936/7 they allowed four alleged Anarchists to go in Ministries and claim to represent the CNT. This criticism is justifiably repeated incessantly by them. They never refer to the fifty years of struggle before nor to the struggle against Franco since. "The UGT...has a revolutionary position..."

"ENTRY TACTIC" IN SPAIN

Nobody else knows of this revolutionary position. NOT A SINGLE U.G.T. PRISONER IS IN JAIL IN SPAIN. Formerly, there were many as a result of Franco jailing all who opposed him in the civil war consistent with leaving the country sufficient workers to carry on. But the UGT has carried out no activity and so today it has no prisoners. Nor have the Trotskyists.

But, you will argue, many Trot groups pass round lists of class-war prisoners in Spain. True. Every name on the list is C.P. The Communist Party has many prisoners. Aid that reaches them, through a multitude of innocent-sounding names, goes only to Moscow-line Communists and those willing to toe their line. (The "fellow travelling" names include world Trotskyism). The CNT, as well as the Maoists and ETA, are excluded. But what they receive they share with all.

ABSTENTIONISM. The abstentionism in the Franco-syndicate elections, carried out by the workers' organisations but not by the Comisiones Obreras (consistent with the alliance line of CP and Christian Democrats) is attributed by "Militant" to the UGT. It quotes the Ministry of Labour that there is "considerable activity" on the part of "illegal political organisations" emphasising the role of the UGT. Curious the Ministry does not make any arrests! In truth the UGT lives a phantom existence, relying on hand-outs from Western trade unions, but in exile. Yet being a "vertically controlled" union (unlike the horizontally controlled union) it has no function in exile. It has collapsed. You do not meet UGT exiles unless they are bureaucrats living on the hand-out, or Trotskyist students. It has nothing to sustain it in exile except salaries.

THE ROLE OF TROTSKYISM

One may dismiss as fanciful the idea

they have a future there, but inter- for infiltrating the CNT

estimating to note what policy the Trots have in regard to Spain. There, they have no need to temper to the wind: they can (confident that their role is confined to observers from afar) put forward their untouched pristine Bolshevik policy.

And it proves to be the rebuilding of the U.G.T.

"The UGT has," says the "Militant", "always believed that to carry out a campaign oriented in the same direction as that of the regime, without the power to combat its enormous propaganda apparatus, is to fall into the worst kind of opportunism." (This is a criticism of the Comisiones Obreras). It is precisely what the UGT has always done. It has followed slavishly in the ranks of succeeding capitalist governments, just as has the TUC and other reformist labour movements. But there was an alternative labour movement, the CNT, a revolutionary one.

Not Bolshevik, of course. Lenin did his best to woo it. He realised that, in 1917-21, the regime in Russia needed support abroad, and tried desperately to get such organisations as the CNT to rally to the Red International of Labour Unions. Knowing the situation in Russia only through the distrusted Press the CNT sent delegates, who came back with knowledge from the Russian Anarchists that this was one more dictatorship. Still the CP wished to infiltrate the CNT. But its role had been pre-empted, as a Marxist Party, by the POUM. When trotskyism came along, it tried to infiltrate the POUM, but its role was negligible. It criticised the POUM

--- which is precisely what the 'Militant' group does with the Labour Party. "It unsuccessfully infiltrates, and so bolsters it up." (Trotsky!)

But we infiltrate in order to be 'among' the workers organisations, protest the Trots. Yet it must be clear from this article, and comparison with all trot statements on Spain shows, that GIVEN THE CHOICE between a mass revolutionary labour movement and a mass reformist labour movement, they prefer the latter. More, they even prefer the minority labour movement of a reformist nature, to the majority one of a revolutionary character -- unless, of course, it was under their own control.

FOOTNOTE: The 'Militant' article is illustrated by a picture of three Asturian miners. Only in the Asturian miners does, in fact, any sympathy for the UGT exist. Asturian Socialism, alone among the Spanish socialist movement, was revolutionary; though later penetrated by the C.P. It is the latter which keeps alive the name "UGT" in the Asturias in preference to using the label "Comisiones Obreras".

REDUCTION IN SENTENCE FOR NON-POLITICAL SPY

Leonard Hinchcliffe was "engulfed in a Soviet intelligence trap" after a "blameless" diplomatic record, said his defence counsel. The Attorney General, Sir Peter Rawlinson, said he had agreed to become a spy after being blackmailed.

Sentencing him to ten years, Lord Chief Justice Widgery said, "I shall make a substantial reduction in the sentence you would have got on account of the fact that you have confessed voluntarily..... I ALSO
NOTE OF THE FACT THAT YOU WERE

NOT POLITICALLY MOTIVATED."

In his report on Northern Ireland, the L.C.J. expects to be regarded as a non-political dignitary ladling out the whitewash. But in his capacity as judge, he admits he would give a higher sentence to a Communist than to a Conservative, and in the tragic case of Mr. Hinchcliffe, who was only manipulated by blackmailers and in it, if at all, only for the cash, he could understand the motive. Lord Widgery too is only in it for the cash. He too is a tool in the hands of others. He too is blackmailed even though it be only by the social prejudices of accumulated centuries.

PECULIAR HAPPENINGS AT THE OLD BAILEY.

There were attempts to link the Oz trial with the Angry Brigade. It was hoped one would discredit the other. By whom? There one needs to get to grips with the conspiracy.

At all events, the story of threats of violence, which never materialised, to Judge Michael Argyle made headlines. The judge was given a guard so rigid that practically the entire village where he lived was in a state of siege. The judge gave out horror stories at intervals. The clerk and the deputy clerk at the Old Bailey were threatened.

Later, a "most distressing case" came up at Haywards Heath magistrates court. Mrs Beatrice Blackaller, wife of the Old Bailey deputy clerk, was convicted of making false reports, threatening letters and phoney calls. Why? Nobody ever said. The police had evidence on her. She was

no neurotic. She was a "robust, practical, commonsense woman" (said a psychiatric prof) of 58, on good terms with her husband, well integrated into capitalist society... why should she incur a fine of £1000 for these alarmist reports which wasted hours of police time, brought into play monitored-circuit television, police with dogs patrolling and all the rest of the paraphernalia (incidentally apparently scaring the old fool fool off a judge out of his wits).

WAS MRS BLACKALLER A TOOL OF THE CONSPIRACY? Did the police, once more, sacrifice a minor member of the set-up to preserve the set-up itself? Was the hue-and-cry over Judge Argyle planned?

The alternative is to believe (a) Mrs Blackaller was framed by the police for no motive (b) she's nuts. We prefer the explanation that she had good reason for doing what she did. It was in the interests of all she believed in to show (a) that Oz was part of a wicked anarchist conspiracy (b) that anarchist conspiracies are not only wicked but dirty (the lines of a Daily Mail editorial).

Was she in it alone? Was her husband involved, and if so, was it in his official capacity as an Old Bailey clerk? These questions were not asked. But they need to be answered if we are not to draw the conclusion that Judge Argyle is as unfit to sit in judgment as Judge Melford Stevenson, who sentenced Jake Prescott to 15 years without disclosing his personal interest and involvement in the case.

Exposé about Spanish Resistance 10p.
Latest Pamphlet from Simian
WHAT IS THE C.N.T. ? Peirats.

ANARCHIST COMMENTARY

The Observer reporter, giving an account of his experiences in Uganda, happens to mention that the Uganda Government calls its Political Police Squad "Special Branch".

By pretending there is no political police, the artful Ugandans are able to pretend they have no political prisoners. If they are not careful, their continental neighbours will be accusing them of a national vice of hypocrisy.

At the Industrial Relations Court, "working to rule" was denounced by the lawyers as being a method by which "barrack room lawyers" or, he he, said Sir John Donaldson "station shed lawyers" could interpret the rules the way they felt they read in the best manner that suited themselves. Exactly what Inns of Temple lawyers have been doing for centuries.

They love a sneer at the "barrack room lawyer", i.e. the bloke who happens to know his rights, such little as they are. And who, despite victimisation which can include being put in the way of going to his death, stands up for them. The poet referred with feeling to "the village Hampden, who with dauntless breast, the little tyrant of his fields withstood." Only the bourgeois Hampdens have made the history books (well, that's an exaggeration: a 'barrack room lawyer' like Wat-Tyler who knew his rights could make it too). Honour them among your working-class rebels: the "barrack room" boys.

IN-JOKE FOR ANARCHISTS

At the phoney social-demo version of "anarchist" international conference held in Paris, the residue of the Carrara conference, which was boycotted by activists, Federica Montseny (representing the rump of the exiled CNT Secretariat, now divided from the activist movement abroad and unknown to the builders of the new CNT in Spain) denounced an alleged Cuban exile movement, led by Agustin Souchy, as "reformist".

The criticisms voiced at Carrara by the British delegates (who included Cohn-Bendit and others from France and Germany on whom the British delegates conferred honorary British nationality... a joke not appreciated by the reformists who wanted to exclude them but could hardly insist we lacked State authority) came in as a bitter joke to those knowing Mme Montseny's record of phoney demagoguery to a position where she could betray the libertarian movement, and as usual, from without rather than within.

Quite a good criticism of her appears in "Lessons of the Spanish Revolution", only to be appreciated by those who savour the joke on us: the author of it is responsible for much the same situation here.

LETTER FROM CALIFORNIA

It's clear to me that your magazine can be useful in our local work, glad you sent the sample issue... None of us was sure what it was like... We have been trying to help publicize the cases of persecutions against Anarchists.. Cops aren't in to shooting whites much over here, there's still plenty of black kids running away from 'stolen cars' to shoot, so they can get their jollies that way. We do have lots of people serving time and who periodically get beaten by the cops. Two days ago, the cops shot a fellow who, they say, was running from his

cabin in the woods, in Northern California. He's dead. The cops were looking for a drug laboratory. They didn't find any. The death penalty has just been declared in violation of the California State constitution, so cops may feel themselves obliged to mete out the death sentence on the streets.

There are plenty of anarchists in the States. Most of them seem to have thought that 'organisation' is opposed to their principles. More and more of us are now trying to experiment with anarchist forms of organisation, admitting finally that we must be organised ourselves. We must have our own organisations. The only alternative to social hibernation is to depend upon the organisations of other resistance organisations, which seem to be dominated by Marxist-Leninists and Stalinists and assorted liberals.

Good luck to you in your work.

Yours for the works,

J.B.

TO SEE OURSELVES AS OTHERS SEE US.

The Bude Stratton Council have committed a major act of vandalism by erecting granite barriers to three traditional fishermen's cellars, Ocean Caves. They have barricaded the entrance to prevent hippies setting up a commune. Hippies are not wanted locally, they say. Mimi, Marchioness of Queensberry, distinguished local resident, explains. "They are dirty and have never done a day's work in their lives," said Mimi, who is beautifully coiffured and has never done a day's work in her life nor have her ancestors back unto the tenth generation.

BROTHERS BEHIND BARS

The "Catholic" and "IRA" prisoners and the "Protestant" and "Loyalist" prisoners in Crumlin Road Jail UNITED to present demands against their jailors. In a demo by Protestants, ironically Union Jacks were waved in protest against the jailing. Why ironically, though? The Plough and Stars also is the symbol of jailing. Of IRA men, too.

They struck to demand recognition as political prisoners. It is not a reform we are enthusiastic about. In most countries, such classification means, as in Spain, greater oppression not less. But with typical humbug, Stormont Castle said "there was no classification in the United Kingdom for political prisoners". They have been saying this for over 100 years. Is a Lord William Russell - or a Charles I. - no different from any pickpocket?

But we have no "political crimes". Juries have found people guilty "of purely criminal offences". If, then, there are no political crimes as such and hence no political prisoners as such WHY DO WE HAVE TO PAY HEAVILY FOR A PURELY POLITICAL POLICE SQUAD?

What is the purpose of Special Branch? It deals with political matters - but these are not "offences" apparently! Murder, fraud, vice, what you will, is dealt with by the civil police... what need of a political police if there are no end-results in political prisoners?

VERDICT BY THE WORLD: A sad case of English Hypocrisy, the national vice. We all have our political "offenders", as much, or more than you. But you affect ignorance.

See previous column.

"Grand-daddy of the flower people" Oscar Wilde said of the Marquis of Queensberry: "I don't know what the Queensberry rules are, but the Wilde rules are to shoot at sight".

"CHICAGO JOINS THE SURGING THRONG"

The famous "Haymarket Case" of 1886 was celebrated by the labour movement with a monument in Waldheim Cemetery to the Anarchists who were arrested and charged with the killing of a cop during the May Day meeting. Later their cases were reviewed by Governor Altgelt who gave a State pardon to those who had not already been hanged.

The respectable citizens never forgave Governor Altgelt, who was hounded from public life, and later, when the machine that gave rise to Al Capone took power in Chicago, it erected in the Haymarket square a memorial to the Good Cop.. it stood there for years. But in the last couple of years it has been blown up so many times - a symbol to the city's pig capitalism - the authorities have given up trying to replace it.

On May 1st this year the ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS held its first meeting on the empty plinth. A joint Anarchist Group - I.W.W. - Anarchist Black Cross march demanded the release of all prisoners of class war everywhere.

CHICAGO ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS
c/o IWW 2440 N. Lincoln
CHICAGO 60614 U. S. A.

See how it runs.....

ARMS CHARGE

May 9: Five "Protestant" Ulstermen, three of them members of the CONSERVATIVE UNIONIST PARTY, were remanded at Bow St. alleged with conspiring to obtain arms. One, an officer in the Royal Ulster Constabulary, was granted bail in the surety of £100 (a surety I was asked to give for someone accused of stealing £2) as against 100 times that amount for a girl in the Angry Brigade case, denied for the rest.- A.M.

Book Review

FRANCO'S PRISONER Miguel Garcia Garcia (Rupert Hart Davis £2.25). - June 5th.

"We shall have to leave Spain to Bakunin for the time being," wrote Marx gloomily to Engels. The day came in 1949, when the post-war libertarian Resistance was smashed by Franco. Little (if anything) has been written about this period of the anarchist resistance (1939-49) when the Civil War had ended. (Soon to come will be books on Sabater and others). As the "gangs" were rounded up, the time for the vocal politicians with resources abroad had come. Franco had made the C.P. a voice to be reckoned with, in the name of "anti-communism".

In this book Garcia tells of the events leading to a 20 year jail stretch, and gives a vivid, unforgettable picture of despotism oiled by corruption in the Spanish jail system. The gloom is relieved by some anecdotes etched in acid at the expense of stupid, bigoted or corrupt officialdom. People known only as names of victims, or as almost legendary importance in the Resistance, become real. His meeting with the "Scot in Carabanchel" is especially interesting (and by sheer coincidence, the book appears the selfsame day the latter goes for trial, once more, at the Old Bailey).

It will be interesting to see how the professional critics deal with this book. It is the first of its kind on Franco's jails. (Let's hope for a paperback version soon).

THE WORKERS OCCUPY THE TOWN

In the town of Sept Iles, province of Quebec, three union leaders were jailed. They were MARDEL PEPIN, LOUIS LABERGE and YVON CHARBONNEAU. Accused of having "incited" the workers to a strike after the courts had ordered that certain services be continued, they refused to capitulate as did the British union leaders. They were sentenced to a year in jail.

Nearly 250,000 public service employees had been on strike. Could three men have 'incited' them? 5000 metal and construction workers came out in strike in support of the municipal employees. So, on May 8th, the three were sent to jail.

That day, the workers of Sept Iles occupied the radio station to broadcast the truth about the strike to the French-Canadian workers of Quebec. By May 9th SEPT ILES WAS A FREE CITY, or a "no go" area... the workers had evicted the State.

A hundred police moved in to seize the town back, armed with pistols and guns. They were repelled by 1000 workers armed with baseball bats. The town for two days set up road blocks. It was then and then only reoccupied by the enemy in the shape of an armed police unit, with a roadblock smashing truck, car loads of reinforced armed police from Montreal and the threat of Army intervention.

That is what we call a commune. That is storming the heavens, as did the Paris commune.

FURTHER DONATIONS TO STUART CHRISTIE DEFENCE (ACTION) FUND:
Terry £1, Dave £1.40, M £5.
Thanks too to friends helping.

SPACE PROJECT: Sending a project whizzing round space, the Americans including a drawing of Earth Man and Woman, so that anything out there might know what to expect. The man is naked, holding his hand up in peace. The woman is also naked, but as she stands there submissively, it occurs to us the drawing may tell alien life out there little about us, but it tells us a hell of a lot about our rulers.

Dominant man, submissive woman. Both white, classical Graeco-Aryan features. Sex organ of man in repose only to size permitted by classic Greek artists. Neither have pubic hair and the woman sports the artistic fiction of a blank triangle for her sex organ.

Clean-shaven, short-haired male. Nicely '30s style bobbed woman. (But who knows what fashions will be like when alien life picks up these drawings in wonder?) Is this your picture of Earthman and his docile mate? Do they exist like that this side of the gravity curtain?

HIPPY CAPITALISM. Opting out of the system for "love, peace, hope tolerance and charity" (tolerance and charity smell a bit of patronage) is Gentle Ghost. It has 37 removal vans and has about 160 workers on the books as a kind of employment agency (no, not that, just cats who do jobs; see?) "We are developing a humane alternative" says its boss, Hugh Berger (well, not boss, no...). But it is still in the capitalist system. It may be a cool set-up. But spare us the humbug, that's all we ask.....

BRIGHTON the MAFIA and the ANARCHISTS

There is an active top level Mafia group in Brighton. It, with all top London gangs, is resident in the town.

No arrests for major crime are ever made in Brighton. Top crime reporters go down there to make contact. The London high class fences go there for business, especially at race meeting days. Several times the corruption in the police force has led to its being taken over by London and reorganised.

In the major hotels, sophisticated crime leaders meet and arrange their territory. It makes for difficulty with the police. As they cannot make arrests for major crime, they tend to go round hassling the long-haired youth instead.

Announcements

SUNDAY NIGHTS... drop in & out at the meeting at the Iberian Centre... build it up to an international centre where it's at.... Films &c (See announcement elsewhere in this issue).

FRENTE LIBERTARIO... Order from us (Spanish language). We can send three to Spain for every one sold here, so if you know any Spanish speakers, push it.

STOKE NEWINGTON ... Defence Send what you can afford to S.M.8 Defence Fund c/o Compendium Bookshop 24C Camden Road, London, N.W.1.

VARITYPER: Anyone capable of repairing/fixing/using?

• SPANISH LANGUAGE Books on Anarchism: Send for list.

The Anarchist Group decided to help the tenants of St Michael's Place, dingy, overcrowded street in the middle of a tarted up bourgeois area, hold a party for the kids.

The party began at 3 on 6th May with a dragon procession, and kids in party dresses and masks danced around. Trestle tables were spread with goodies. The police came speedily (perhaps looking for the Mafia?) to say the party was causing obstruction (to parked cars). They said Brighton Council disapproved of children's street parties (except at Coronations and Victory Days?).... the strong arm squad turned up and one grabbed a woman with a three year old kid. They scared the child and dumped the woman in the back of a van, for 'obstruction'. The street erupted in indignation. Those who protested were grabbed by the hair and thrown in the van too. In all, 14 people were charged with obstruction. Later 70 residents of the street (which has 35 houses) signed a petition of protest against the police. The police told the local paper they 'broke up a hippy party'. St Michael's Place is not exactly chic hip. It is the street Brighton Council wants to forget. It is a slum that offends the eyes of the well-to-do gangsters. But they have to have some workers in the town.

It is difficult to get a job if you live in St Michael's Place. Give the address to an employer and he does not want to know you. (As a classic piece of Council Planning, Stepney Council solved this problem before the war, when many people complained that some streets were so run-down, they couldn't get work when they gave their address... they changed the names of the streets concerned. May we suggest Agincourt Road? The police must be proud of their great victory against the kids' tea party.

BLACK FLAG.... 10 Gilbert Place, London, W. C. 1.

THE MILLAN CASE CONTINUES....

by Miguel Garcia Garcia

As we have already announced, the case of this comrade came up before a military court in Madrid, after more than four years delay, and he was sentenced to 23 years.

The date of that judgment was fixed with very little notice, but thanks to the vigilance we maintained, it was possible to be able to send in time four legal observers (British, French and Belgian). The report made by these lawyers on their return was well publicised. There could be no proof that Millan was implicated in the events of which he was accused as he was in France at the time.

After the judgment, the case was sent, as customary, for confirmation by the Captain General of Madrid. He has decided to quash the judgment - we do not know if it is for better or worse. The Captain General is the notorious Garcia Rebull (who sentenced the ETA 16 in Burgos). He decided to prevent the international campaign by giving no time to send observers. The date of 13th March was fixed. He knew we could not raise funds to send lawyers at so short a notice. But something prevented the trick succeeding. Millan's defence lawyer fell seriously ill, and while this normally would not be sufficient to prevent the trial taking place, to have the second trial without even his own lawyer would have been going too far. So it comes about that after all these years, Millan Hernandez is still awaiting trial.

He had the bad luck at his first trial to come before the tank regiment officers, regarded as the most fascist in the Army. It is to be hoped that next time he may

have more luck in this respect.

We are keeping a constant watch on the case of Millan Hernandez. Both Juanito Marcos in Toulouse and myself are keeping in close touch with events. (If you would like to help, get in touch with me.)

Something less positive, but very easy to do, is to send letters. Write a letter asking for justice for Julian Millan Hernandez, to

Senorita Maria Luisa Blanco,
Secretaria de la Comision de
Proteccion y Tutela Penitenciaria,
Avenida de Jose Antonio 76,
Madrid 13, Spain.

According to Franco propaganda, this organisation looking after prisoners' interests and the applications of laws, would welcome such letters.

Or write to the office of executioner Garcia Rebull, Captain General of the first Military Region:

Subsecretaria del Ministerio
del Ejercito,
Calle Prim 4, MADRID, Spain

We have said many times that Zamora, capital of the province of that name, has a special prison for priests. The General Directorate of Prisons calls it a "sacerdotal residence". It is in one of the most reactionary towns in the peninsula, where clerical prisoners would be regarded with hostility.

Some priests have tried to escape from that prison, having built a tunnel (connecting it up by cable with electric light) but were unfortunately discovered. Now those responsible have been transferred to the punishment prison of

Cartagena, where incidentally the three priests join our comrade Floreal Rodriguez de la Paz who tried to escape from Puerto de Santa Maria. The three have, incidentally, sentences of 12 years (two of them) and 50 years (the third).

How does it come about that priests can be doing 50 years imprisonment and be attempting escapes from prison? They come from the Basque region, and now almost the whole of Basque opinion is anti-Franco and anti-centralist notwithstanding its strong Catholicism.

I can say that those Basques who were in prison with me never went to mass on Sundays though these are celebrated in all Spanish prisons in full. One of the lads who took part in a recent action in the Basque country said to me, "We could take refuge in any house in the village. This could not be done anywhere else but in the Basque region." He meant to explain that the national feeling was almost without exception in the Basques.

The Spanish Communist Party has tried to cash in on the Basque feeling and to exploit it for its own purposes. The youth is reacting against religious sentiment. It is averse to mysticism and wants social betterment as well as independence, and also liberation from Church paternalism.

A new movement which expresses this aversion has arisen among the Basque youth. Its slogan is: "Free Euzkadi? Good. Free Basques, better." The libertarian Basques have not remained silent while all the so-called Marxist twists are going on, and they have

begun the reorganisation of a libertarian upsurge within E.T.A. This new movement, calling itself ASKATASUNA, has its contact point in Belgium. If anyone wants to aid them in their work I can put them in touch.

ASK YOUR LIBRARIAN TO STOCK
FLOODGATES OF ANARCHY
(Christie & Meltzer) and
FRANCO'S PRISONER (Garcia) pub
June 5. Most will!

LEE WANG

We regret to announce the death of our militant Chinese comrade Lee Wang. A lifelong Anarchist, he has been in the forefront of seamen's struggles all over the world, and his burly smiling 24 stone will be missed in many seamen's halls. Com. Wang remained in Mao's China when he could easily have left. He was the principal contact between the Anarchists of mainland China and those elsewhere. He dies at 56. He could not be more greatly missed. In his last letter, written from hospital, he said nothing about his illness. He asked only about our comrades in jail here.

- A.M.

PROPER POORLY....how we stand

Old deficit	104. 16	
PAPER INK		
STENCILS..	83. 04	
POSTAGES	16. 80	
Stationery	2. 45	206. 45
Sales	43. 75	
Donations	3. 50 (TT)	
Subs	5. 75	
NEW DEFICIT	153. 45	206. 45

(New pamphlets, some old, this issue & back nos. in stock) If we're not to have large men in raincoats giggling as they wheel away the furniture (no one gets hung up on sex, only debt, these days) buy some stuff from us and renew subs. HEY YOU THERE!

WALLACE

Take any down-South bully-boy who goes round strutting hate and pomp. He pushes his weight around until he gets as they say his 'come-uppance'. No surprise? Even the most inoffensive citizen of the US is likely one dark night to be mugged, maybe shot. Why the fuss about some guy taking a shot at Wallace? How many other shootings were there that day?

Wallace is not just another guy any more. He is a politician; indeed, the way the primaries seemed to be going, on his way to becoming a statesman. So the shooting was the classic news story of Man Biting Dog. The State may send us to our deaths, may shoot down - as Vietnam now - hundreds of thousands, may bomb and destroy. But its component servants are immune, or should be if the rules are played their way.

The shooting does not seem, at time of writing, to have been 'political'. But immediately, knowing of Wallace's black-hating policies, the white liberals heave a sigh of relief. How fortunate his assailant was not a black man! Exactly what they said in the context of Germany about Jews. When the Jews were thought of as persecuted victims, who were not expected to hit back; the world combined to persecute, to sneer or to be patronisingly tolerant.

The tendency of the Israelis is to shoot first and ask questions afterwards. Everyone condemns it. But they respect them for it. This does not condone violence. But it explains it in terms of the world as it really is.

CALABRESI

The notorious Dr Calabresi, murderer of Pinelli, has now been shot down himself. It is not known who did it. Calabresi was the most hated police chief outside the avowedly totalitarian countries a trug heir to Mussolini's police force in whose traditions he was trained.

He had on his conscience not only the murder of Pinelli. It was he too who planned the Milan Bomb in conjunction with the secret service. It was he too who planned within Interpol the drive against militant organisations, including the Black Cross, which led to the murder of von Rauch and the frame-up of militants here.

Before the walls he could see everywhere, he could read in leaflets and newspapers, he could even hear shouted or sung, the refrain CALABRESI MURDERER. He may have become too much of an embarrassment to the police and they decided to remove him. An inquiry was, for them, impossible.

A Christian Democrat senator said that the death could "lead to civil war". But not the death of the railwayman Pinelli. That was in the normal course of police work.

POST SCRIPT

AT THE VERY LAST MOMENT WE LEARN OF A CHANGE IN DATE IN THE "ANGRY BRIGADE" TRIAL.....

It begins now on Tuesday May 30.

After a delay since last August and despite repeated defence applications for an earlier trial or bail, it was fixed for June 6. Now, at the very last minute, Judge Thesiger says it has been "delayed long enough" and switches it forward a week. This throws out defence plans. The prosecution get unlimited time and money. The accused are locked up to the last minute.

The idea of nationalism is still peddled as a "leftist" ideology as well as a rightist. But nevertheless there is a persistent query among the "new left" - despite its nationalist hang-ups - Is socialism possible in one country? They take the argument, like much else, from the context of Russia (where the revolution had been betrayed within the country soon after its birth, and where the Leninist counter-revolution made it an undesirable export - as the Russian workers and peasants were already being suppressed by the State).

Trotsky's original ostensible differences with Stalin were on whether the bureaucratic State should be confined to one country or considered in the context of world revolution. Much later, he began to criticise the bureaucracy (when it had turned decisively against him), and then never in class terms. Inefficiency, wrong decisions, criminality, mistaken analyses, are all criticised by all political power tendencies. They do not add up to a class analysis.

A libertarian socialist economy is possible within any given viable territory. If it needs too much from the outside capitalist world, it will fail economically. If it can live without having to trade with the capitalist world, it will have a chance of economic success. A "commune" of a few people living in a house, or even a factory taken over by its workers, will be isolated. It will need to depend upon capitalism outside. From an economic point of view, what counts is not the 'nation', it is the viable size of the unit.

But what of the other side of it, outside oppression? In most political revolutions, the tendency is that the revolution is at first not popularly supported. But when it is suppressed from outside, it becomes popular and the people rally to its defence. The reason is very simple. Over centuries, people will bear iniquities, oppression and tyranny because they do not feel a sense of injustice. The King of France was appointed by God: the nobles took their authority from him: all seemed just as it should be. But once it was seen that this was a phoney device just to ensure some people lived well and their families after them, at the expense of others, it also seemed how grossly unfair it was to re-establish that system.

Injustice must be hidden: that is the purpose of the media, of the Church in the old days, of the political and religious ideologies. Intervention from abroad to restore the status quo ante, the old system, helps revolutionary progress.

In the struggling, 'under-developed' countries, the masses have a strongly developed revolutionary feeling. To achieve a revolution is not difficult; their problems begin after that. It is easier for the clever foreign-backed politician to seize power. In the industrialised countries, there would be less difficulty after the revolution to push forward to a free economy. The problem there is that it is difficult for them to go into a revolution: they feel they have something to lose, and the sense of injustice is less strong.

IT IS A POLITICAL TRIAL, THEN!

"It does not concern the I.R.A. but it does concern Anarchism,"

Michael Hill, prosecuting.
